Second Class Powers experimentally. In the selection of the Bench Magistrates, the option must be entirely with the Deputy Commissioner. (Sometimes most incompetent men who know nothing of the law are recommended for these places.) If it is not done so, it would be as if purchasing these appointments in an auction.

Mr. D. S. Hanumantha Rao.—If this is not possible, two taluks may be clubbed together, and two Amildars, one for Revenue work, and another for criminal work, may be appointed. This entails no extra cost, and will serve the purpose of the representation.

Dewan.—When this suggestion was first made to Government, it was found that it was not possible to give effect to it. However, it will again be considered.

(*Vide.*—Also Dewan's concluding remarks in Appendix G.)

SUBJECT No. 51.

Establishment of Panchayet Courts in the Cities of Bangalore and Mysore.

Messrs. M. Ramachendra Rao Scindia and T. Nanjappa, the Mysore Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. T. Nanjappa.—There has been inordinate delay in the disposal of civil suits. Even small cases are not disposed of even after two or three years. As competent men are available in both Bangalore and Mysore Cities, experimental Panchayet Courts may be established in these two places. If they prove to be working satisfactorily, more powers may be given.

Justice Mr. K. S. Chandrasekhara Aiyar.—The men who will have to be appointed to such courts must be well versed in law. Much knowledge of law is not required in criminal cases but in civil litigation, it is not so. On the small cause side, disposal will be quick.

Mr. T. Nanjappa.—Even on the small cause side, there is delay with the result that poor people lose credit and get no loans.

Dewan.—This question is already under the consideration of Government.

(*Vide.*—Dewan's concluding remarks in Appendix G.)

SUBJECT No. 52.

Increasing the jurisdiction of Village Munsiffs' Courts.

Messrs. Setty Basappa, Hoskote Municipality and Rajanarasaiya Setty, Tyamagondlu Municipality.

Mr. Rajanarasaiya Setty.—The jurisdiction of Village Munsiff's Court may be extended to all villages within a radius of five miles. According to the present rules the plaintiff and the defendant are to be the residents of the same place. This has been causing lot of trouble to the people. The use of stamps for issuing summons, etc., may also be introduced.

Revenue Commissioner.—The object with which this system was inaugurated will fail, if the use of stamps is introduced.

Mr. Ramanna.—People do not look upon the Bench Magistrates' Courts with respect. There is no furniture and no peon is given to them. The present system may

be continued but it is very necessary that some furniture and a peon is granted to them.

Third Member of Council.—It was recommended by the Deputy Commissioner that the jurisdiction of the village munsiff's court near Malur may be extended over the villages within a radius of 5 miles. This was sanctioned. If the Deputy Commissioner of the District recommends any such case it may be considered.

Dewan.—It is not desirable to consider this question. Wherever competent men are forthcoming, Government will try to increase the number of courts.

SUBJECT No. 53.

Official control over Village Panchayet Members.

Mr. Hutchveeregowda, Gubbi Taluk.

Mr. Hutchveeregowda.—Some of these members are not properly working since there is no supervision. While the villages were under the supervision of the Amildars they were in very good condition in point of view of sanitation and cleanliness. These panchayet members are honorary workers and the Vice-President also an honorary worker, and as such no check can be exercised by any body. It is better if some responsible officer of Government is entrusted with this work.

Dewan.—What was the object of granting Local Self-Government to villages? The villagers must be responsible for all such work.

SUBJECT No. 54.

Powers of Bench Courts.

Messrs. (1) B. Srinivasa Iyengar and R. Subba Rao, Anekal Taluk; Gubbiah, Anekal Municipality and (2) A. Srikantappa, Dodballapur Municipality.

Mr. B. Srinivasa Iyengar.—(1) Once in every three months these Magistrates are changed. When the new set of Magistrates comes, even minor cases already tried by the other set of Magistrates are ordered to be tried *de novo*, which practice, I think is not necessary. There is no restriction in Criminal Procedure Code but High Courts have held Section 350 not applicable to Bench Courts.

Justice Mr. K. S. Chandrasekhara Aiyar.—These cases are summarily tried and evidence is not generally recorded, and as such it is desirable to try the case *de novo*.

Mr. B. Srinivasa Iyengar.—Whole evidence is recorded. There are no summary trials.

Third Member of Council.—Why not they go to the same Bench again?

Mr. B. Srinivasa Iyengar.—It is not possible. The period of tenure at least should be extended to one year or six months.

Mr. A. Srikantappa.—(2) It is very necessary that Bench courts must be invested with powers under Section 480 of the Criminal Procedure Code to try cases falling under Sections 175, 178, 179, 180 and 228 of the Indian Penal Code. Unless these powers are invested these courts will not be looked upon with respect. While Mr. Venkataramiah was a Chairman of the Dodaballapur